



North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Mobile Soils Classroom Fact Sheet

What is a Mobile Soils Classroom?

- A Mobile Soils Classroom consists of a 7'x14' trailer with a graphic wrap. The trailer is filled with the educational resources needed to conduct a variety of soil demonstrations.

- ✓ *Determining Soil Properties and Structure* – testing for soil particle sizes, analyze color standards, moisture content analysis, and analyze soil chemistry
- ✓ *Understanding Common NC Soil Profiles* – analysis of Soil Monoliths for common state soil types
- ✓ *Understanding Soil and Water Interactions* – analysis of how soil structure impacts water movement, groundwater retention, and sheet flow
- ✓ *Understanding Soil Erosion* – review of surface types like bare verses vegetated areas and the impacts of water and wind
- ✓ *Understanding Soils as a Biosphere* – analysis of soil at the micro level (bacteria, fungi, protozoa, nematodes)

How can I reserve a Mobile Soils Classroom trailer for an event in my county?

- There are currently four Mobile Soils Classroom trailers housed across North Carolina's geographic regions. Scheduling coordinators for each of the units maintain a calendar for their trailer. Trailers are reserved through local soil and water conservation districts who then schedule the event with one of the trailer's scheduling coordinators. Someone must be recruited to present these lessons when the trailer is checked out.

Is there a fee to have the trailer at an event?

- There is no fee for use of the Mobile Soils Classroom. However, replacing lesson consumables is greatly appreciated. Also, soils gathered locally are often best to use.

How do I get the trailer? Do we provide a driver to haul it?

- The local district is responsible to provide transportation or appropriate arrangements to haul the trailer. The pulling vehicle must be equipped for a trailer with electric brakes.

For more information contact Sandra Weitzel: Sandra.weitzel@ncagr.gov

If you would like to support this program financially, please make your tax-deductible check payable to North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, a public non-profit 501-C-3 tax-exempt organization, federal tax number 23-7075599, and send to Soil & Water Conservation, P.O. Box 27943, Raleigh, NC 27611-7943. Indicate on memo line: MSC

